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DE RUEHAH #0189 0411208  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH ZDS  
P 101208Z FEB 10  
FM AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4219  
INFO RUCNCLS/ALL SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE  
RUCNCIS/CIS COLLECTIVE  
RUCNIRA/IRAN COLLECTIVE  
RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 6241  
RUEHDE/AMCONSUL DUBAI 0020  
RUEHIT/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL 4485  
RHMCSUU/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASHGABAT 000189

///// C O R R E C T E D C O P Y /////  
///// CORRECTING PARA 1 TEXT /////  
///// C O R R E C T E D C O P Y /////

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/IR

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/10/2020

TAGS: [IR](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [UNESCO](#)

SUBJECT: IRAN: UNESCO REPORTS ARREST OF TWO JOURNALISTS

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires Sylvia Reed Curran. Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

11. (C) The Tehran Cluster Office of UNESCO informed Iran Watcher by email today that two journalists, employed by their office a part of a school journalism project, were detained upon arrival at a Tehran school. (Our contact was writing from his UNESCO account as Gmail has been blocked in Iran for the past three days). The journalists, Nima Afshar Naderi, editor of the newspaper Pendar, and Bahnaz Jalalipoor, were reportedly arrested as they arrived for a meeting with students and teachers about the "School Wall Newspaper" project.

12. (C) The School Wall project was launched last year in 12 Tehran primary and secondary schools. Its activities include lessons in realistic narration of events, producing a school newspaper, creating "wall newspapers," producing news reports and on-line reports.

13. (C) COMMENT: Scores of journalists have been arrested in Iran since the disputed presidential election last June. These detentions, however, were apparently the first involving UNESCO implementing partners. END COMMENT.  
CURRAN